

§ 308.3

§ 308.3 Use of Economic Adjustment grants.

(a) Grants may be used to pay for developing a strategy to alleviate long-term economic deterioration or a sudden and severe economic dislocation, or to pay for a project in implementation of such a strategy.

(1) Strategy grants may support developing, updating, or refining a strategy.

(2) Implementation grants support activities identified in an EDA-approved strategy. Specific activities may be funded as separate grants or as multiple elements of a single grant. Examples of implementation activities include:

(i) Infrastructure improvements, such as site acquisition, site preparation, construction, rehabilitation and/or equipping of facilities;

(ii) Provision of business or infrastructure financing through the funding of locally administered Revolving Loan Funds (RLFs), which may include interest rate buy downs;

(iii) Market or industry research and analysis;

(iv) Technical assistance, including organizational development such as business networking, restructuring or improving the delivery of business services, or feasibility studies;

(v) Public services;

(vi) Training (provided that it does not duplicate Department of Labor, Department of Education or other Federally-supported training programs), and

(vii) Other activities as justified by the strategy which meet statutory and regulatory requirements.

(b) Economic Adjustment grants may be spent directly by the grantee or redistributed to other entities.

(1) Redistribution in the form of grants may only be to eligible recipients of grants under part 308.

(2) Redistribution in the form of loans, loan guarantees, or equivalent assistance may be to public or private entities, including private for-profit entities.

(c) Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) applicants must submit an RLF Plan in accordance with this part and RLF guidelines, Appendix A of this part, displayed at EDA's web site, <http://www.doc.gov/eda>. A copy of the RLF

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guidelines is available from EDA and a copy will be furnished to an award recipient with the Offer of Financial Assistance.

§ 308.4 Selection and evaluation factors.

(a) Projects will be selected in accordance with part 304 of this chapter and the additional criteria as provided in subsections (b) and (c), as applicable.

(b) *Strategy grants.* EDA will review strategy grant applications for assurances that the proposed activities will conform to the CEDS requirements in § 303.3 of this chapter.

(1) Proper authority, mandate, and capacity of the applicant to lead and manage the planning process and strategy implementation;

(2) Representation of the public and private sectors in the development of the strategy's objectives. Representation may include: Public program and service providers, trade and business associations, educational and research institutions, community development corporations, minorities, labor, low-income, etc.; and

(3) The proposed scope of work for the strategy focuses on the structural economic problem(s) and includes provisions for undertaking appropriate research and analysis to support a realistic, market-based, adjustment strategy.

(c) *Implementation Grants.*

(1) EDA will review implementation grant applications for the extent to which,

(i) The strategy shows

(A) An understanding of the economic problems being addressed;

(B) An analysis of the economic sectors that constitute the community's economic base, including particular strengths and weaknesses that contribute to or detract from a community's current and potential economic competitiveness;

(C) Strategic objectives that focus on stimulating investment in new and/or existing economic activities that offer good prospects for revitalization and growth; and

(D) Identified resources and plans for coordinating such resources to implement the overall strategy; and

(ii) The proposed project is identified as a necessary element of or consistent with the strategy.

(2) *Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) Grants.* For applicants asking to capitalize or recapitalize an RLF, EDA will review the application for:

(i) The need for a new or expanded public financing tool to enhance other business assistance programs and services targeting economic sectors and/or locations described in the strategy;

(ii) The types of financing activities anticipated; and

(iii) The capacity of the RLF organization to manage lending, create networks between the business community and other financial providers, and contribute to the adjustment strategy.

(d) Additional criteria, or priority consideration factors for assistance, may be set forth in a NOFA.

[64 FR 5429, Feb. 3, 1999, as amended at 64 FR 69879, Dec. 14, 1999]

§ 308.5 Applicant requirements.

Each application for a grant under part 308 must:

(a) Include evidence of area and applicant eligibility (see part 301);

(b) Include, or incorporate by reference, if so approved by EDA, a strategy, as provided in § 301.3 of this chapter (except that a strategy is not required when a funding request is for planning assistance, *e.g.*, a strategy grant);

(c) Identify the sources of the other funds, both eligible Federal and non-Federal, that will make up the balance of the proposed project's financing, including any private sources of financing. The application must show that such other funds are committed to the project and will be available as needed. The local share must not be encumbered in any way that would preclude its use consistent with the requirements of the grant; and

(d) Explain how the proposed project meets the criteria of § 308.2.

[64 FR 5429, Feb. 3, 1999, as amended at 64 FR 69879, Dec. 14, 1999]

§ 308.6 Post-approval requirements.

(a) Financial, performance, and progress reports will be specified in the Special Award Conditions of the grant.

(b) Projects involving construction shall comply with the provisions of subpart B of part 305.

(c) RLF Supplemental Requirements and Guidelines—RLF grants are subject to the requirements set forth in this part and the publications: EDA's RLF Standard Terms, EDA's RLF Administrative Manual, and EDA's RLF Audit Guidelines, Appendixes B–D of this part displayed at EDA's web site, <http://www.doc.gov/eda>. A copy of these documents is available from EDA and a copy will be furnished to an award recipient with the Offer of Financial Assistance.

APPENDIX A TO PART 308—SECTION 209 ECONOMIC ADJUSTMENT PROGRAM REVOLVING LOAN FUND; PLAN GUIDELINES

OMB Approval No. 0610-0095.

Approval expires 07/31/99

BURDEN STATEMENT FOR REVOLVING LOAN FUND PLAN

Notwithstanding any other provision of the law, no person is required to respond to, nor shall any person be subject to a penalty for failure to comply with, a collection of information subject to the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act, unless that collection of information displays a currently valid OMB Control Number.

The information is required to obtain or retain benefits from the Economic Development Administration pursuant to Economic Development Administration Reform Act, Public Law 105-393. No confidentiality for the information submitted is promised or provided except that which is exempt under 5 U.S.C. 552(b)(4) as confidential business information.

The public reporting burden for this collection is estimated to average 40 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden to: Economic Development Administration, Herbert C. Hoover Building, Washington, DC, 20230, and to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Washington, DC 20503.